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ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Application of Eritrea for admission to membership in the United Nations

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with rule 135 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and rule 59 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to circulate herewith the application of Eritrea for admission to membership in the United Nations, contained in a letter from the Secretary-General of the Provisional Government of Eritrea received by the Secretary-General on 12 May 1993.

ANNEX

Letter from the Secretary-General of the Provisional Government of Eritrea received by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 12 May 1993

As you are aware, the Eritrean referendum on independence held from 23 to 25 April 1993 resulted in a resounding "yes" to independence by 99.8 per cent of the voters in a turnout of 98.5 per cent. You also know that this referendum was observed by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and a host of other international as well as national bodies, all of which have witnessed to its freeness and fairness. On the basis of this outcome in favour of independence, announced by the head of the independent Referendum Commission on 27 April 1993, the Provisional Government of Eritrea declared Eritrea to be an independent and sovereign State on the same day. Several countries have already recognized the independent Eritrean State.

We believe that the peaceful and democratic resolution of the Eritrean case through the referendum will not only consolidate peace and stability, but also greatly contribute to cooperation and progress in our subregion and thus our continent. In the two years of its free existence, Eritrea has indeed demonstrated its commitment to peace, stability and cooperation by engaging actively in contributing to the peaceful resolution of conflicts in the Horn of Africa.

Eritrea accepts the obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and is prepared to carry out these obligations, and, on the basis of the articles of the Charter of the United Nations concerning admission, which I believe Eritrea fulfils, I should like, on behalf of the State of Eritrea, to apply for the country's full and immediate membership to the United Nations, the world community of States.

(Signed) Issaias AFEWERKI
Secretary-General
Provisional Government of Eritrea